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Brief Peace Notes.

... The *Inter-Church*, published at Clinton, S. C., made its issue of May 3 a peace number. Hon. John Barrett contributed an article on "The Pan-American Union and Peace;" Dr. J. J. Hall an article on "The Cessation of War," and about a dozen peace workers joined in a symposium on "How Can America Contribute Best Toward International Peace?" The *Inter-Church* is to be congratulated on this excellent service to the cause of peace.

... Superintendent Frank B. Cooper, of the Seattle public schools, appointed speakers for the 18th of May for most of the schools of the city. The principal of each of the seventy-two schools was sent a package of peace literature to aid in preparing exercises for the day. Many other cities of the country prepared in the same thorough way for the observance of the day.

... At the dinner given at the Hotel Somerset, Boston, on Saturday evening, May 10, to the English delegates visiting this country in connection with the hundred years' peace celebration, Hon. John D. Long, who presided, was enthusiastically applauded when he suggested that there be erected at the entrance of the Panama canal a monumental statue of Jesus as an emblem of goodwill to all men, in the place of fortifications, which were merely a visible challenge to war.

Platform of the Fourth American Peace Congress.

Held at St. Louis, May 1-4, 1913.

1. The Fourth American Peace Congress, assembled at St. Louis May 1 to 4, 1913, and composed of delegates from the numerous peace societies, from other organizations interested in the cause, and of representative individuals from this and other American States, records its sincere satisfaction at the substantial progress which the movement for world peace has made since the meeting of the Third Congress at Baltimore two years ago.

2. It particularly expresses its high appreciation of the unique services to the cause of international arbitration rendered by Ex-President Taft in negotiating the treaties with Great Britain and France. These treaties constitute the high-water mark of the arbitration movement on its practical side up to the present time, and the congress records its deep regret that they were not ratified by the Senate with their full significance preserved.

3. Not less significant, the congress recognizes, is the noteworthy enlargement and deepening of public sentiment on the part of nearly all classes throughout the country in favor of pacific settlement of all international controversies, as evidenced by the immense number of letters and memorials received by Senators during the discussion of the arbitration treaties last year.

4. The congress rejoices in the failure of the militia pay bill to become a law, and urges the people of the nation to be on their guard against allowing any such system to be established as will ultimately fasten on the nation a great and burdensome military establishment, like those of the Old World, for which our great coun-

try has no conceivable need. We call upon all friends of peace to guard against the insidious efforts to extend military training in the schools and to make naval recruiting stations of our colleges and universities.

5. The congress congratulates the country on the failure, for two years in succession, of the two-battleship program, believing that the nation is so completely protected by its geographical situation, the great strength of its people, and the universal friendship of the other nations that it does not need to go any further in naval rivalry with the other powers.

6. The congress respectfully urges upon the President of the United States the initiation, at the earliest practicable date, of negotiations for an international agreement for not only the arrest of the current naval and military rivalry, but also of a simultaneous reduction of armaments, that the peoples may be relieved from the heavy and exhausting burdens of taxation under which they are now suffering.

7. The congress has learned, with much pleasure, of the plan which President Wilson and Secretary Bryan have just announced for securing treaties of unrestricted arbitration with not only Great Britain and France, but also with Germany and the other powers, and for the investigation by a commission of inquiry of the facts of any dispute which either of the parties may not consider proper for arbitration before any steps are taken toward hostilities.

8. As it is expected that the Third Hague Conference will assemble in 1915, the congress respectfully requests the President to appoint, without delay, a committee of not less than five persons, especially fitted by ability and international experience for the task, to consider what proposals the United States shall present for the program of the Third Hague Conference.

9. It is the judgment of this congress that the difference which has arisen between the governments of the United States and Great Britain over the question of the Panama tolls should be disposed of by the prompt repeal by Congress of the provision in the Canal Act for the exemption of vessels engaged in coastwise trade from the payment of tolls. Failing this, the controversy should be submitted without delay to the Hague Court for arbitration.

10. The congress makes earnest appeal to the legislature and people of California and to the National Administration at Washington to secure such just and impartial settlement of the question of alien ownership of land in the State as may not discriminate against the citizens of a great and friendly power and turn a long-standing historic friendship into enmity and friction for the future.

11. The congress recognizes the vast importance to the cause of good-will and peace between nations and races of early education in the principles of international justice and morality, the interdependence of peoples and races, and the co-operation of the nations for the promotion of the common good of humanity. It commends the aims and work of the Intercollegiate Peace Association, the American School Peace League, the Association of Cosmopolitan Clubs, and other bodies engaged in this fundamental work, including the various organizations of women, and bespeaks for them more generous sympathy and the larger financial support of which they are in urgent need.

12. The work of federating and affiliating the various peace organizations of the United States into a more unified and co-operative force, which has since the Baltimore American Peace Congress been well advanced through the National American Peace Society, has already resulted in increased activity, in the strengthening and enlargement of peace propaganda throughout the nation, and gives promise of much greater efficiency of the peace movement in the future. The congress records its warm appreciation of this federation of peace forces and expresses the sincere wish that sufficient resources may be found to carry it forward to much greater completeness.

Platform of the Nineteenth Annual Lake Mohonk Conference on International Arbitration.

Mohonk Lake, N. Y., May 14-16, 1913.

The Nineteenth Annual Lake Mohonk Conference on International Arbitration, in view of the probable meeting of a third Hague Conference in 1915, respectfully recommends:

1. That the Secretary of State of the United States urge the nations which participated in the second Hague Conference to form immediately the international preparatory committee recommended by it to prepare and submit to the nations a program for the third Hague Conference, and to devise a system of organization and procedure for the conference itself.

2. That the Secretary of State consider the expediency of submitting to the international preparatory committee at an early date a list of the topics which the United States especially desires to have considered at the third Hague Conference, with an outline of the proposals of the United States on each topic.

3. That the third Hague Conference reconsider the question of a general treaty of arbitration which shall, in accordance with the principle of obligatory arbitration unanimously adopted by the second conference, submit to arbitration without restriction disputes of a legal nature, or relating to the interpretation and application of international agreements, and such other controversies as may be considered susceptible of arbitral or judicial determination.

4. That the court of arbitral justice, approved in principle by the second conference, be established for the adjudication of disputes of a justiciable nature, without altering the status of the permanent court of arbitration.

5. That the exemption from capture of innocent private property of the enemy on the seas be considered anew by the third Hague Conference.

6. That in general, greater stress be laid by the third Hague Conference upon the means and measures by which peace may be maintained, or restored when broken, than upon the rules and regulations of warfare.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That the independent negotiation of treaties or conventions of particular or special interest to two or more contracting powers, analogous in nature and scope to the Rush-Bagot Agreement of 1817, without re-

gard to common consent or general participation, is highly desirable.

Resolved, That the utmost possible publicity concerning all consummated international agreements, whatever their nature or content, would conduce to the peace of the world.

Resolved, That in the interests of commerce, friendly intercourse, and peace, all agreements between nations, whether general, particular, or special, should be fully executed or lived up to in spirit as well as in letter.

Resolved, That this conference desires to call attention at this time to the recommendations of the first and second Hague Conferences that commissions of inquiry be instituted on occasion to report the facts on serious disputes arising between any two signatory powers; and, bearing in mind the valuable service rendered by a commission of inquiry in 1904 in settling the North Sea incident between Great Britain and Russia, this conference notes with peculiar interest the proposal of the Secretary of State of the United States to make use of standing commissions of inquiry which shall be allowed adequate time for their investigations.

Resolved, That the committee of the Lake Mohonk Conference appointed May 20, 1910, to report to the conference of 1911 as to the best method of carrying into effect the recommendation of successive Presidents of the United States that the United States Government be vested with power to execute through appropriate action in the Federal courts its treaty obligations, and generally to furnish adequate protection to alien residents in the United States, be renewed.

Business and Peace.

The following resolutions were adopted by the delegates of business organizations at the Lake Mohonk Arbitration Conference on May 16, and made a part of the proceedings:

Whereas, under the international banking system which has been developed in recent years an economic crisis in one financial center immediately affects all others, and thus all countries and their citizens have important interests in the maintenance of peace among the nations; therefore be it

Resolved, That the business organizations of the United States and Canada represented at this Mohonk Conference, feeling the need of an efficient agency for the dissemination of proper information concerning the economic interests affected by war, recommend to the chambers of commerce of the United States and other business organizations the early establishment of such an agency.

Whereas, wars are now largely maintained by financial loans negotiated by belligerents in neutral countries, and by arms and ammunition purchased by belligerents in neutral countries: therefore be it

Resolved, That we call upon the United States Government to use its utmost endeavors to secure an international agreement prohibiting the making of loans or the furnishing of arms by the nationals of any country to a government or party that is actually engaged in war or in making active preparations for an anticipated war, as being in violation of neutrality.